



**For immediate release
January 14, 2009**

**Contact: Wendy Fox
617-626-1453**

**DCR HOSTS PUBLIC MEETING TONIGHT
TO DISCUSS THE PATRICK ADMINISTRATION'S
BRIDGE REPAIR PROGRAM**

Schedule of public meetings on individual projects also announced

The Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) is holding a public meeting tonight, Wednesday, January 14, to discuss projects the agency will undertake as part of Governor Patrick's \$3 billion Accelerated Bridge Program. At the meeting, DCR officials will also launch the agency's series of upcoming public meetings on individual projects.

"It is extremely important that the public understand the scope and anticipated schedule of these projects, and have an opportunity to make their comments known," said DCR Commissioner Richard K. Sullivan Jr. "This agency takes very seriously its commitment to civic engagement as its work in the Accelerated Bridge Program moves forward."

Tonight's initial public meeting is 6-8 p.m. in the Boston Public Library's Rabb Auditorium.

Sullivan said DCR officials are dedicated to informing the community about bridge design, repair, and rehabilitation work as these important transportation projects get underway. To that end, the following six public meetings have been scheduled to discuss individual bridge projects. Also, a second overview meeting to discuss all DCR projects in the Accelerated Bridge Program has been scheduled in Worcester on February 12. Additional public meetings for the remaining individual projects will be announced as they are scheduled.

January 27, 2009: BU Bridge and Craigie Dam and Drawbridges; MIT's Stata Center, 32 Vassar St., Cambridge; 6-8 p.m.

January 29, 2009: Lech Walesa (Mt. Vernon Street Bridge) and Patten's Cove; Boston College High School, Morrissey Boulevard, Dorchester; 6-7:30 p.m.

February 3, 2009: Cheney Bridge; DCR's Elm Bank Reservation, Wellesley; 6-7:30 p.m.

February 10, 2009: Neponset Bridge; Quincy City Hall, 1305 Hancock St., Quincy; 6-7:30 p.m.

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS · EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF ENERGY & ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS

Department of Conservation and Recreation
251 Causeway Street, Suite 600
Boston MA 02114-2119
617-626-1250 617-626-1351 Fax
www.mass.gov/dcr



Deval L. Patrick
Governor

Timothy P. Murray
Lt. Governor

Ian A. Bowles, Secretary, Executive
Office of Energy & Environmental Affairs

Richard K. Sullivan, Jr., Commissioner
Department of Conservation & Recreation

February 12, 2009: To discuss all DCR bridge projects in the Accelerated Bridge Program; Worcester State College, Science & Technology Building, 486 Chandler St., Worcester; 6-7:30 p.m.

February 24, 2009: Magazine Beach Pedestrian Bridge; Morse School, 40 Granite St., Cambridge; 6:30-8 p.m.

March 4, 2009: Mystic River Valley Parkway over Alewife Brook; South Medford Fire Station, Zero Main St., Medford; 6-7:30 p.m.

Upholding his pledge to quickly repair the Commonwealth's most neglected bridges, Governor Patrick last August signed a bridge bond bill that committed \$3 billion to repair and replace 250 Massachusetts bridges identified as structurally deficient. Over the next several years, the program will ensure public safety by funding repair work for bridges in most urgent need of repair, and will create thousands of engineering and construction jobs. The project will save the state an estimated \$1.5 billion in avoided inflation and deferred-maintenance costs.

To learn more about the Accelerated Bridge Program, visit www.mass.gov/acceleratedbridges. To learn more about DCR projects, visit www.mass.gov/dcr/projects.

###

The Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR), an agency of the Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs, oversees 450,000 acres of parks and forests, beaches, bike trails, watersheds, and dams, in addition to 278 bridges and miles of roadways. Led by Commissioner Richard K. Sullivan Jr., the agency's mission is to protect, promote, and enhance our common wealth of natural, cultural, and recreational resources. To learn more about DCR, our facilities, and our programs, please visit www.mass.gov/dcr. Contact us at mass.parks@state.ma.us.